THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 4848. *Saturday, July* 1, 1837. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

DRURY LANE THEATRE

THE fashion of giving only parts of a performance seems to increase, though Bellini's Opera of *Norma* has been represented but twice on the English stage, it was last night cut down half, only the two first acts being given, which is exactly the first act of the Italian Opera. The Ballet of *La Sylphide,* was then performed, and the first act of *Fidelio* concluded the evening's entertainments. Madame Schroeder had been announced for *Amina* in *La Sonnambula* for Monday night, but we hear to-day that the Theatre is to be closed all next week.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

THERE were four pieces performed at this Theatre last night, all good in their kind and exceedingly well acted, therefore the most insatiate dramatic *gourmand* must have had enough for his money. The performance commenced with Sheridan's charming Comedy of *The Rivals,* after which *My Young Wife and My Old Umbrella, My Wife's Mother,* and *The Youthful Queen.* The first novelty to be produced here is a Drama by Mrs C. Gore, entitled *A Tale of a Tub.* Little Buckstone has a Comedy accepted here, which will be put in rehearsal immediately; the author-actor makes his first appearance for the season in his own *Married Life,* on Tuesday the 11th instant.

This morning, soon after twelve o'clock, the firework tower in Vauxhall Gardens was discovered to be on fire, and we regret to state that in a few minutes the beautiful piece of scenery which has created so much admiration in the public during the present season as the "Arc de l'Etoile," was one body of fire. At the top of the firework gallery was an immense tank, which is said to contain 8000 gallons of water, which fell with a tremendous crash, but strange to say produced not the slightest effect on the flames. Indeed such was the force of the flames, that 15 fine trees in the vicinity of the tower were burnt, and twice as many injured. As soon as a supply of water could be obtained, which was not till some time after the arrival of the engines, the fire was got under, and by three o'clock all danger ceased.

On Thursday, in the Court of Common Pleas, Mr De Pinna brought an action against Capt. Polhill for a breach of contract, relative to the copyright of an Opera, entitled *The Rose of the Alhambra; or, the Enchanted Lute.* Mr. Thessiger, for the plaintiff, stated that the action was to recover the sum of 300 guineas, being the agreed price for the purchase of the Opera, which had been composed by the plaintiff in 1832-3, at which time defendant being lessee of Drury Lane Theatre, wished to produce the Opera there, but the plaintiff objected, and it remained in his hands until March 1836, when defendant, who had ceased to be lessee of Drury Lane, applied to Mr. De Pinna on the subject of the Opera, and on the 25th of March an agreement was signed

by the defendant to pay 100 guineas for the music and poetry of the said Opera, and provided that it should be performed 30 consecutive nights, plaintiff should be entitled to another sum of 300 guineas. A short time afterwards, *The Rose of the Alhambra* was brought out at Covent Garden, where it was played only two nights, but it was subsequently performed at the Lyceum for 19 consecutive nights. The learned counsel said he had attended one of the representations of the Opera, and was much pleased with the music, but there was no question at issue with regard to the merit of the composition, the only question was whether or not defendant agreed to become the purchaser of the copyright. The agreement was then put in, and the brother of the plaintiff proved the signing of it. and the delivery of the Opera to the defendant. The counsel for the defendant could not deny the agreement, but said it was an unjustifiable action to bring against a man who had endeavoured so much to serve the plaintiff in bringing an Opera before the public, which had been utterly profitless and unattractive. The learned Judge, in summing up, said that it was evident the agreement had been signed, and though the defendant had made an improvident bargain, the plaintiff was entitled to a verdict, and the only point for the jury to decide was the amount of damages. The jury returned a verdict 300 guineas, which was the full amount claimed by the plaintiff.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of the Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon—but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town I address this letter from White's celebrated Cigar *Depot*, 415, Strand, where I fill my box with exquisite snuff, a get some Havannahs—a delightful lounge.

Monday, I am to be found at the DIORAMA, Regent's Park, where there is a new and splendid view of the *Basilica of St. Paul*, near Rome—tho transition of the building from its perfect state to that of its desolation by fire, is both beautiful and astonishing. The other view, the *Village of Alagna*, destroyed by an avalanche, with all its beauties of light and shade, is quite a *chef d'œuvre*.

Afterwards escorted Mrs.P.to the COLOSSEUM,—visited the Conservatories—Fountains—Caverns—Views of Stupendous London, and other delightful and interesting Views.—The Optical Gallery—Wonders of the Microscope, and the new and unrivalled cabalastic feats of Mr. Sutton, the celebrated Magician.

The lovers of the Fine Arts may have a delightful treat by contemplating that admirable picture of Leda. Castor, and Pollux, painted by the celebrated Leonardo da Vinci, for Francis the First, a combination of beauties, and his finest work. Exhibiting at S. Isaacs, 131, Regent Street.—Admission 1*s*.

Why is PERRING's splendid Summer stock of Hats, like celebrated performers ?—because they are waterproof like Reeve—elegant like Vestris—durable as Braham—& light as the step of Taglioni ! They are as cheap as the Boxes at reduced prices, & as well known as the finest *Opera*, for PERRING *Caps* them all.

Wednesday. visited Madame Tussaud's elegant and interesting Exhibition Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker Street, Portman Square. Many beautiful and new additions—the lamented Malibran, Duchess of Kent. Princess Victoria, and the Murderer Greenacre.—fac similies from life !—the dresses truly superb.

The Exhibition of *British Artists*, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, is again open, attracting numerous visitors with elegant specimens of native talent.—Many *chef-d'œuvres* of art equal to some of the best of the Ancient and Modern Masters—excellent Portraits and Brilliant Landscapes.—Admission One Shilling.

Called on friend EVANS at his Hotel, Piazza, Covent Garden, to visit his splendid Coffee Room, had an excellent coffee-room dinner for 2s. After my refreshment pop't into the Harmonic Meeting held down stairs as usual, so pleased stayed there a week, for which I only paid a Guinea for bed & breakfast, by the bye *an excellent Table d'Hote every Wednesday & Saturday at half-past 5.*

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, (3d time) a Tragedy, in Five Acts, entitled

THE BRIDAL!

Adapted for representation from Beaumont and Fletcher's *Maid's Tragedy.*

Arcanes, (King of Rhodes) Mr HAINES,
Melantius, Mr MACREADY,
Aminton, Mr ELTON, Lysippus, Mr SAVILLE,
Diphilus, Mr J. WEBSTER, Calmax, Mr SELBY,
Cleon, Mr WORRELL, Strato, HARRIS,
Diagoras, Mr HART, Assassin, Mr ANDREWS,
Dion,.....Mr BISHOP,
Evadne, Miss HUDDART,
Aspatia,.....Miss TAYLOR,
Antiphila, Miss E. PHILLIPS,
Cleanthe,.....Miss WRIGHTEN,
Olympias, Miss GALLOT, Dula, Mrs HUMBY,

After which, (8th Time) a Farce, in One Act, called

MY *YOUNG* WIFE! And MY *OLD* UMBRELLA!!

Gregory Grizzle, Mr W. FARREN,
Peter Prog, ...Mr STRICKLAND,
George Allen, Mr J. WEBSTER,
Augustus Tompkins, ... Mr WEBSTER,
Dianah, Miss E. PHILLIPS.

To which will be added, the Farce of

NICOLAS FLAM.

Nicolas Flam, Mr W. FARREN,
Lord Pedigree, Mr GOUGH, Mr Fitzsmith, Mr SELBY,
Shrimp, Mr ROSS, Doctor Birch, Mr STRICKLAND,
Harriet, Miss E. PHILLIPS,
Mrs Nibble,.....Mrs TAYLEURE,
Miss Mary Puddicombe,.....Mrs W. CLIFFORD

To conclude with, the Laughable Farce of The

Happiest Day of my Life

Mr Gillman, Mr WEBSTER,
Dudley, Mr STRICKLAND, Charles, Mr J. WEBSTER
Frederick Vincent, Mr SAVILLE,
John,.....Mr WORRELL,
Mrs Dudley, Mrs GLOVER,
Sophy, Mrs HUMBY, Mary, Miss E. PHILLIPS,
Mrs Grimley, Mrs TAYLEURE,
Mrs Taylor,.....Mrs GALLOT.

NEW STRAND THEATRE.

This Evening, the Burletta, called

Blindman's Buff:

Or, Who Pays the Bill.

Sir John Wiseman, Mr A. YOUNGE,
Ralph Testy,.....Mr G. COOKE,
Joseph Sensitive, Mr ATTWOOD,
Charles Dashall,.....Mr MELVILLE,
John Pence, Mr H. B. ROBERTS,
Landlord, Mr SEARLE, William, Mr BURTON,
Julia Wiseman, Miss E. HAMILTON,
Kate,.... :..... .Miss BROOKES,

After which, a New Burletta, called The

GLASS DOOR!

OR, THE MAN IN THE MACKINTOSH CLOAK.

Mr Garmer (a Jeweller) Mr J. LEE,
Mr Augustus Fogg, Mr W. J. HAMMOND,
Mrs Garnet, Miss DALY,
Miss Louisa Penfold,.....Miss PETTIFER.

To which will be added, an entirely New Burletta, called The

Winterbottoms!

Or, My Aunt's the Dowagers.

Mr Gotobed, Mr A. YOUNGE,
Mr Frank Jekyll,..... .....Mr J. LEE,
Jeffry, Mr W. J. HAMMOND,
Dobson,.....Mr ATTWOOD,
Sergeant Crank, Mr SEARLE,
Dowager Lady Winterbottom, Mrs H. HALL,
Celestine Angell,...(her Niece).. Miss PETTIFER

To conclude with (6th Time) an entirely New Burlesque, called

THE WIFE:

A Tale of a Mantua Maker.

Marmaduke Iago,.....Mr MELVILLE,
Zachariah Iago, Mr ATTWOOD,
Jack Peters,.....Mr W. J. HAMMOND,
Floor'em, Mr A. RICHARDSON
Antony, MrG.COOKE ,Lawrence,MrH. ROBERTS,
Mary Ann Phipps, Miss DALY,
Flora,.....Mrs MELVILLE.

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